

A NEW COMBINATION IN *LINANTHUS* (POLEMONIACEAE) FROM IDAHO AND OREGON

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ABSTRACT

In preparing the treatment for Polemoniaceae for the Flora North America North of Mexico it is necessary to propose a new combination in *Linanthus* (Polemoniaceae).

Key Words: Endemism, *Leptodactylon*, *Linanthus*, Polemoniaceae.

As many as 10 infraspecific taxa have been recognized for *Leptodactylon pungens* (Torr.) Nutt. (IPNI 2008), and while floristic treatments have differed in use of infraspecific taxa, we consider *Leptodactylon pungens* subsp. *hazeliae* (Peck) Meinke distinctive and warranting recognition. When Porter and Johnson (2000) revised the taxonomy of Polemoniaceae, conforming to the goal of recognizing only monophyletic genera, they transferred all seven species formerly recognized as *Leptodactylon* to *Linanthus*; however, they did not consider infraspecific taxa that had previously been recognized in *Leptodactylon pungens*. In preparation for the treatment of *Linanthus* for the Flora North America north of Mexico project, a new combination is required: ***Linanthus pungens* subsp. *hazeliae*.**

TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

***Linanthus pungens* (Torr.) J. M. Porter & L. A. Johnson subsp. *hazeliae* (Peck) J. L. Schultz & R. Patt., comb. nov.** Basionym: *Leptodactylon hazelae* Peck, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. 49:111. 1936; *L. pungens* subsp. *hookeri* (Dougl. ex Hook.) Wherry f. *hazela* (Peck) Wherry, Amer. Midl. Naturalist 34:383; *L. pungens* subsp. *hazeliae* (Peck) Meinke, Madroño 35(2):107. 1988. — Type: USA, Oregon, Wallowa Co., dry rocky slope, Snake River Canyon near mouth of Battle Creek, 13 April 1934, *Barton s.n.* (holotype: WILLU 18415).

*Linanthus pungens* subsp. *hazeliae* is a rare and very narrow endemic to the Snake River Canyon region that forms part of the Idaho-Oregon border. It occurs within the overall range of *Linanthus pungens* subsp. *pungens*, but the two subspecies are not sympatric. *Linanthus pungens* subsp. *hazeliae* has opposite, soft-filiform distal

leaf lobes, while subsp. *pungens* has alternate, acicular, sharp-tipped distal leaf lobes. Meinke (1988) and Moseley (1989) provide careful and complete discussions of the distinctive features and habitat of the subspecies, including comment on its rarity.

Descriptions and discussions of infraspecific taxa of *Linanthus pungens* have been inconsistent and often lacking in detail; however, analytical approaches have improved since these taxa were described, and there are more botanists today who can contribute valuable field information. Therefore, it seems an appropriate time for a thorough systematic study of *Linanthus pungens* throughout its range.

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